

Hobbies

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A 74-year-old Reader's suggestion for a simple MODEL CARRIER

MR. Wm. S. Gofton of Scarborough has sent us the two photos of a model tank which he has constructed and which readers may like to copy. It is not intended as an exact replica, but as a simple piece of work completed with a few odd tools. The wood is $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick throughout and a list of sizes is given herewith.

The original was in $\frac{1}{2}$ in. mahogany planed both sides and screwed together instead of being nailed, as the round-headed screws give it a more workman-

like appearance. The outsize of the model is just under 9 ins. in length, about 5 ins. in height and $3\frac{1}{2}$ ins. in width.

The wheels, of pulley shape, are the kind that are used in sash windows but, if preferred, smaller ones can frequently be found in old venetian blinds which are equally serviceable.

Track and Gun

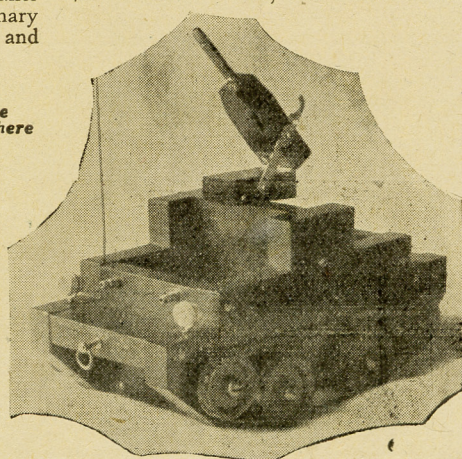
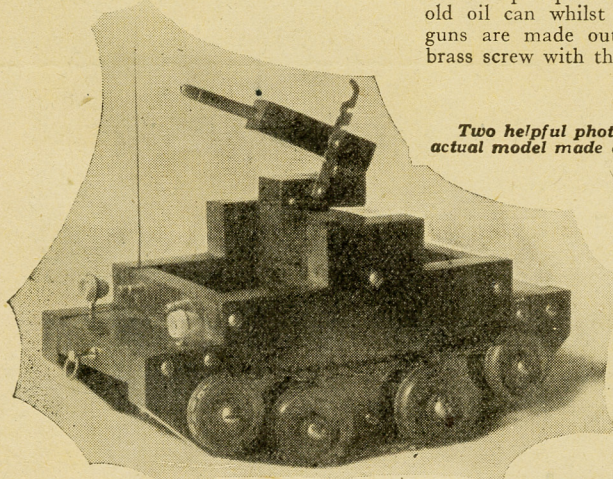
The chain which is endless moves automatically in unison when the wheels are revolved and came from an old disused clock. The big gun at the top is part of the spout of an old oil can whilst the two smaller guns are made out of an ordinary brass screw with the top cut off and

a hole down the centre bored by a $1/16$ in. twist drill.

The big gun is mounted on a turntable to which it is attached by an ordinary hinge. The brass lever at the side allows the gun to be moved from a perpendicular sight to a horizontal one with various stages between. The lamps are made from a piece of an elephant's ivory tusk but can be made equally, if not perhaps quite so ornamental, of any piece of hardwood.

The process of manufacture is, however, just the same, and for the benefit of any reader who would like to make them, Mr. Gofton has

Two helpful photographs of the actual model made as described here



described them in detail, particularly as no lathe was used by him.

First of all it is necessary to choose a piece of straightgrained hardwood. Then plane it down so it is $\frac{3}{8}$ in. each way by, say, $1\frac{1}{4}$ ins. long. Then drill a hole at one end with a $\frac{3}{8}$ in. bit to the depth of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. This will give an excellent guide to file the outside of

could have been used with much less trouble and in quicker time but the effect would not have been so substantial. Screws, too, form a better axle for the wheels to revolve on than nails would have done and each screw can be more easily centred.

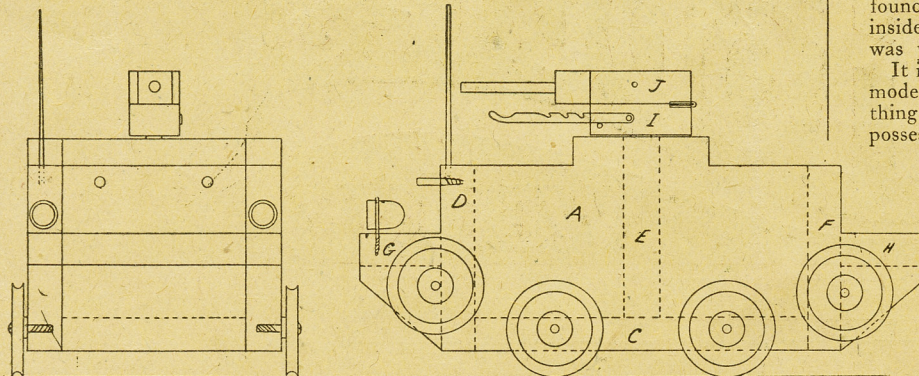
The aerial consists of a piece of brass pinion wire tapered to a point

Continue the process gradually until you reach the shank, then finish it off with emery cloth, when it can be inserted in a hole bored in the tank to receive it.

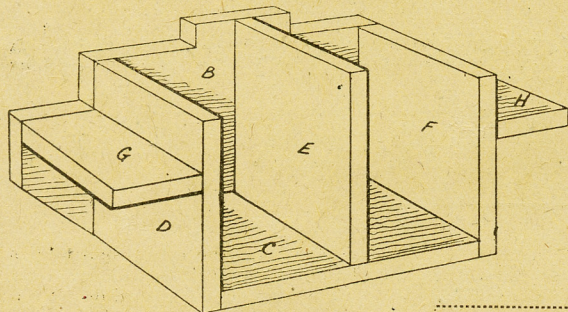
French polishing was used by Mr. Gofton as a finish and to save labour he polished both sides of the wood before screwing up the model. He found this was easier to do on the inside than trying to get at it after it was pieced together.

It is also worthy to note that most models cannot be utilized for anything except an exhibit, but this model possesses the additional advantage in that it can be used as a receptacle for cigarettes and can be wheeled and passed round the table when required as the inside of the tank is in two separate divisions.

A curiosity in the manufacture of this model is that Mr. Gofton made it first and then drew the plan from it and sent it to us afterwards. Cer-



Front and side elevation showing position of parts, lettered as below

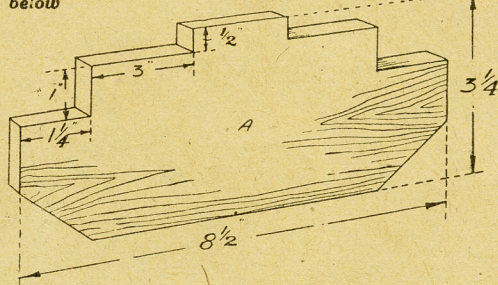


With one side taken away

the hole until it becomes round. Then the rest is tapered down until it is about $\frac{3}{8}$ in. long.

In place of a glass front a piece of Mica can be let into the hole which can be filed to fit tightly. To complete the fixing of the lamp to the tank a brass ring with a screw thread to insert into the wood holds the lamp quite securely.

It may interest our readers to know that there are over three dozen screws in this miniature tank. Nails



Outline and measurements of a side

WOOD REQUIRED

(All $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick)

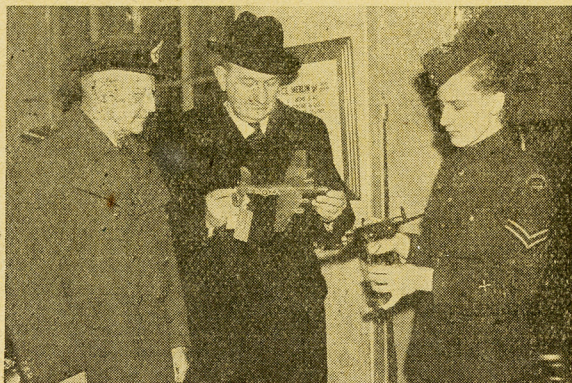
Piece A and B—8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.
Piece C—5 ins. by 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.
Piece D, E and F—2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins. square
Piece G and H—1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins. by 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins.
Piece I—1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
Piece J—2 ins. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

at the top. This tapering is easily accomplished by laying the wire on a piece of wood about 6 ins. long by 1 in. wide, then start filing it at the top and twisting it in the fingers at the same time to keep it round.

tainly a case of putting the cart before the horse.

A 74-year-old Worker

Mr. Gofton informs us that he is now in his 75th year and evidently, as we frequently state, age does not debar old or young from constructing a similar model particularly as he assures us he is entirely self taught and has never had any mechanical or other similar training. Congratulations Mr. Gofton, not only on the work done, but on the thoughtfulness of passing details and instructions for others to follow!



Marshal and Models

The cadets of the London Command of the A.T.C. were very busy towards the end of last year in model making, and some marvellous work was undertaken. So good, indeed, that an Exhibition of nearly a hundred of them was staged for London public to see at Harrods Stores early in this year. The standard of work was very high, and proved a difficult task for the judges Sir Frederick Handly Page and Air Chief Marshal Sir William Mitchell (Commander London A.T.C.) whom you see here studying one of the exhibits. Needless to say, the models were almost perfect in their detail, and ranged from a Spitfire to a Lancaster. One exhibit was of a German Seaplane. Many of our readers were among the winners, and we congratulate them on their success.

How, when and where you can and should run A HOBBIES CLUB

IN these days, the advantages of co-operative effort are more apparent than ever to those who are still anxious and enthusiastic over their hobbies. It is impossible for everyone to obtain all he needs for his work, whereas amongst a group of several, sufficient tools and materials can be found.

The formation of a Club, particularly for fretworkers and model-makers is thus well worth undertaking, and the little trouble in its original planning will be repaid time and again by the results.

Take, for instance, the question of tools. There is great difficulty in obtaining planes and fretsaw frames, but no doubt amongst half a dozen fellows forming the membership of the Club, at least one each of these can be produced. The other fellows will also probably have something which another member cannot get.

Get Together

So, by pooling the resources of the different members, a very satisfactory workshop can be made up. Then, too, there is the advantage of working together, and the social friendship formed, apart altogether, of course, from the extra knowledge gained from other people. Not even the most experienced knows it all, and very frequently beginners will come along with a suggestion particularly helpful, and quite unthought of before.

Even if you do not know immediately of any other fellows interested in the same pastime as yours, there should be no difficulty in scouting around to introduce them to it. Probably they have not given it a thought before, or are concerned at not having a complete kit of tools.

If you have some, and they have some, you can help each other in this respect, and go further in commencing work together. Three or four like-minded fellows can make an excellent little club and gain additional knowledge and enjoyment from their co-operative effort.

Accommodation

We have known from such a small beginning as this, very large fretwork and modelling clubs to be worked up, until it has had to be properly organised in large premises with regular officers and so on.

In many cases, of course, the question of suitable working accommodation will be the first matter to settle. It should not, however, take long to overcome, and a keen organiser will provide the solution almost immediately. If three or four fellows are getting together, it should be

possible to undertake the work in their various homes, taking it in turns to meet at a certain time at a certain address.

Do not forget to arrange in these circumstances for the necessary tools and materials to be available at that address for that particular date.

If, of course, you have a workshop or shed or spare room in the house, which can become a permanent meeting place, so much the better. Then you can, right at the beginning, settle in quite comfortably, fixing your tools, benches, materials, etc. in their permanent home, available to any who require them.

Communal Efforts

In getting together like this, get the members to produce whatever they can to help swell the accumulation of necessary "bits and pieces." A list of these tools should be made, with the names of their owners, so there is no question of their return later.

In many cases, the question of the premises will not arise, particularly in larger organisations such as the Y.M.C.A., N.F.S., and some Service camps. Here one can get in touch with the Education Officer or the appropriate rank concerned, and suggest running one evening a week when your own particular interests will be provided for.

We know of one Air Force camp where half a dozen enthusiasts got together some months ago. The

interest they found soon grew amongst other members of the camp until there were a very large number of members who regularly attended in the evening and thoroughly enjoyed themselves with the fretsaw and other tools, making models of all kinds.

An R.A.F. Example

The enthusiasm grew so great in the end—just before Christmas—an elaborate Exhibition was staged, and the Station Commander awarded a number of Savings Certificate prizes to the best and outstanding pieces of work. We have also known of civilian enthusiasts who have gradually evolved the idea of a final exhibition of their co-operative work, and made an outstanding success.

These exhibitions naturally take more organising, but can frequently be done on a small scale amongst friends, and definitely do increase the enthusiasm of the members and all others interested.

Then, beginning in a small way, involves a certain amount of organising, and this in itself is a happy business. A leader or secretary should be appointed by the others, and preferably one who is keen and able to organise with tact and ability. It means fixing up the accommodation making contact with members and prospective members, arranging suitable meeting times, places and dates, and keeping any incidental records necessary.

The question of subscriptions arises

A Simple Crossword Puzzle

Previous Puzzles of this nature have been very popular, so here is another which any reader should be able to complete. It is quite straightforward without any alternatives, and should form a pleasant half hour's pastime. There are no prizes for solution, but the correct answers will be shown next week.

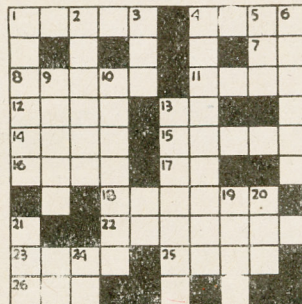
ACROSS

1. Flies a 'plane.
4. A great crowd of people.
7. Short for "that is."
8. Burdened.
11. We always follow it.
12. Cures for different ones.
13. In centre of "coil."
14. Connected with collars.
15. An occasional breakfast dish.
16. An armchair provides it.
17. A conjunction.
18. Essential qualities of anything.
22. A great virtue.
23. To run away.
25. First part of "aeroplane."
26. Dial for Time.

DOWN

1. Very mannerly.
2. Used in lifting out soup.
3. 20 hundredweight.
4. A small replica.
5. Short for "sister."
6. This is believing.

9. Otherwise.
10. A concentrated preparation.
13. Connected with death.
19. Uncommon.
20. Individuality.
21. The rear end of a ship.
24. Colloquial contraction of "them."



because requirements such as wood, fretsaws, etc. have to be bought, and this should be done out of the club funds. The amount should be made sufficient to cover likely expenses and needs, and, of course, can be altered as occasion arises.

The greater the number of members the more money will come in, so that at the beginning the amount will possibly have to be a little higher for small numbers to overcome lack of members. These subscriptions should be paid regularly every week or every month, and an account kept of them in a book.

It is important to keep these subscriptions up to date, and anyone getting in arrears should be immediately informed, and finally not allowed the use of the club if he becomes very much overdue with them. Another book, as previously mentioned must have a list of the tools loaned to the club, with date and name of owner.

Decisions on Work

The members decide amongst themselves what work to undertake, and in this there must be the spirit and team understanding rather than individual desires. Two or three may want to make different articles, but the minority should give way to the

others so that a general piece of work be undertaken for all to help.

We do not mean, of course, one large piece of work or one large model, because in that case there might not be sufficient tools or parts for all to be working at once. Two or three small pieces of work can be best undertaken, and experience will soon prove how best to allocate the different operations to the different people.

Varying the Work

Naturally, all cannot be doing the same job or using the same fretsaw. Some can be pasting the designs down or marking them on the wood, whilst others are doing the cutting out and others again are shaping as required. Take it in turns with the various tools, and the use of them, because naturally everyone likes to undertake some operation more than another.

For instance, if you like using the fretsaw, remember that the other fellow does also, and do not expect him to do all the monotonous work of glasspapering or cleaning. Gradually by all taking part, the model or piece of fretwork will reach its completion, and the joy of seeing it built up in its final stage repays all the work involved, and provides added enthusiasm amongst the members.

One final word, and perhaps one

which must be impressed on all concerned. That is, to be tidy and neat after you have completed your evening's work. Do not just lay the tools down, get up and go home. Make a point of leaving the whole place clean, with everything where it should be. Get everyone to take a share in this, and have the tools properly returned to the same place each time.

Tidy Premises

You can, indeed, allow a short period for this before actually closing the club. If, say, you are closing the evening's work at nine o'clock, then you should knock off about ten minutes too, to allow this cleaning up process.

A good plan here is to appoint an "orderly" for each occasion. He will be responsible not only that the work is done, but that there is an even distribution of it, and that all join in to help.

The idea of this co-operative club is certainly well worth thinking about, and you will find it provides social companionship of unexpected happiness, an increased knowledge of the pastime itself, and a surprising quantity in output. Bear the idea in mind and see if you cannot enlarge upon it and carry it out.

Oddments can easily be used for recognition in some SILHOUETTE PLANE PARTS

SHORTAGE of wood and materials may often prevent the making of complete model planes for recognition purposes but the enthusiastic modeller can enjoy making up small parts of planes from oddments of fretwood in an interesting way so that the recognition class can learn their various types by knowing the bits and pieces.

To get the details and correct proportions try and borrow the silhouette cards from the A.T.C., a Royal Observer Corps member or a Spotter. Pick out planes with dis-

tinctive features and enlarge the parts to be made, ready for cutting with the fretwork saw.

Recognition Points

Position of fuselage, wings and engine are a great aid to recognition and in sketches 1, 2 and 3, are shown three ideas of suitable head-ones. Examination of the planes in the pack will give the worker plenty of scope for other suitable varieties.

Great assortment exists in the many nose versions of our bombers, fighters and Coastal Command aircraft and those suggested in sketches 4, 5 and 6 are splendid for distinctive detail.

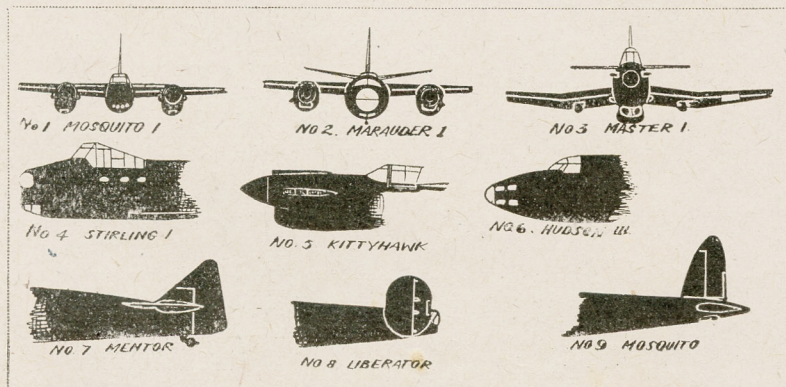
In real recognition one is often just able to collect his thoughts by spotting the type of tail unit as the aircraft is going out of sight. In sketches 7, 8 and 9 are illustrated good versions, all showing salient recognition points.

These pieces should be painted in flat black paint and, if kept small and neat, could be used with the average epidiroscope. The white lines which show wing flaps, air coolers, struts, engines and cabins should be marked in with a thin brush with white paint. Take great care in keeping these details proportionate because they play a great part in recognition.

Other Parts

There are plenty of suggestions which could be added. For instance, gun positions, windows, turrets, etc., could be cut out and mica added to give realism.

One could also make a plan view of any aircraft first and then split this up into four or five sections as follows. Nose up to main wing, the main wings, the rest of fuselage, tail and tail plane unit. The engines could be made of dowel rod and fitted to the wings. A variety, when made, would create a good evening's enjoyment for any study circle especially if the members had to assemble the plane parts in correct sequence and these on the correct plane.



An unusual and interesting piece of work is this DOLL'S EXTENSION TABLE

THIS small but well-proportioned model (2½ ins. high) is about the right size for an average doll's house. It is of the extension type, the leaves drawing out as in the full size article. It is fairly simple to make and takes just one 4 in. by 9 in. panel of ½ in. fretwood.

Its use is not confined to the lucky owner of a doll's house, it would probably be an interesting plaything to any young child. Particulars are also given for a larger model of the same article.

Framework

Fig. 1 shows the framework of the table—the top being removed. The legs are ½ in. sq. and each should be carefully cut to the same length. It may be added that if no ½ in. wood is available for the legs, two thicknesses of the ½ in. wood could be glued together to make it.

The legs can be improved in appearance if they are tapered from a distance of ½ in. from the top to the bottom. Do not overdo the tapering, however.

The four rails are cut to the length given at A. In two of these rails (called for convenience the end rails), cut ½ in. sq. notches as shown. These notches which guide the runners of the extending leaves are not cut in the same position in each of the two rails.

Runners

The runners work side by side, so cut the notches 1 in. apart in one as at A, and in the other ½ in. apart as shown by the dotted lines. The rails should now be fixed to the legs with glue and fretwork nails as in Fig. 2.

Be careful to get the rails in the middle of the legs, leaving 1/16 in. each side clear, and mind the nails do not foul each other, driving in one just above or below the other one.

A central rail B is not cut to dimensions given. In this, at ½ in. apart, saw out two square ¼ in. holes.

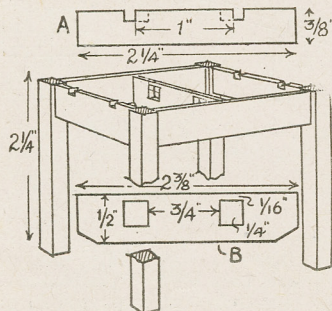


Fig. 1—The general framework

Cut them on the full sides to leave ample room for the runners to slide in side by side.

Bevel off the ends of the rail, leaving them ¾ in. wide (the same as the side rails) and fix it across the middle with a nail each side. Drive the nails only partly in, so that the rail can be taken out for filing out the holes and notches a little, should it be found necessary when fitting the runners.

A plan of the table is given in Fig. 3, also a cross section. The table top is 3 ins. sq. and should be cut to that measurement. For the extending leaves and fixed centre underneath the top, cut a second top to the same dimensions, plus 1/16 in. in length to make up for loss in sawing, and saw into three equally wide strips as shown by the dotted lines.

Fitting the Top

The outside strips, which will be the leaves, should, on their inner edges, have two nails driven in 1 in. apart, and cut off to leave pins 1/16 in. long. In the edge of the fixed centre strip suitable holes should be bored to receive these pins as in detail, Fig. 4.

Get these pins and holes exactly opposite. The pins should be rather a loose fit in the holes so there is no tendency for the leaves to stick but leave the centre part easily as drawn out.

Lay all three, centre piece and leaves together, on the frame of the table. See they overlap ½ in. all round and then nail the centre piece to the frame (not to the cross rail). Lay the table top on the lot and turn over.

Now, at spots C and D, either side of the cross rail, bore small holes through the fixed centre piece and halfway into the top. Turn right side up and in the holes bored halfway in the top, drive nails.

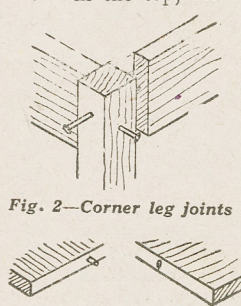
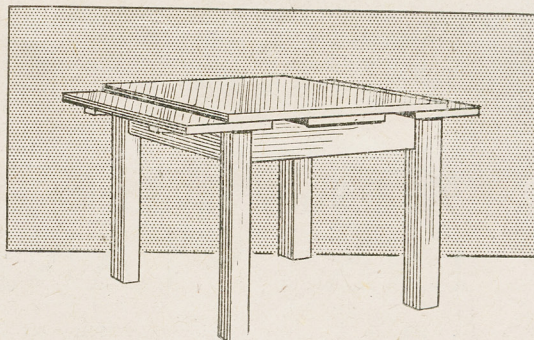


Fig. 2—Corner leg joints

Fig. 4—The holding pins



rail beneath, their exact distance from the side edges does not matter much as long as they do not come directly over the runners, which might obstruct them.

Extending Leaves

Four runners must be prepared for the extending leaves to work on. First, to get their correct downward slope, draw on a sheet of paper a line, E, F, exactly 3 ins. long.

Mark a point at G, ¾ in. down from the top, and from G to E draw a line. This is the slope for the runners. These lines are shown on the plan of the table top, Fig. 3, for economy's sake, but have nothing to do, naturally, with the table top itself.

Cut four runners to 3½ ins. long and ¼ in. wide, and lay them one at a time on the sloping line E, G. Carefully mark in pencil that part overlapping the line and pare it off, and from where the paring starts (H) measure off 1 in. and saw off the remainder of the tapered end.

Now turn the table upside down. Push the runners through the holes in the cross rail and then right and left until they rest flat on the leaves. The tapered ends of the runners should reach to the edges of the leaves as shown in the sectional view, and

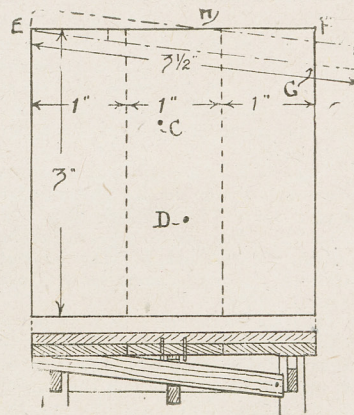


Fig. 3—Details of the table top

the notches and holes in the rails should be filed until they do. Now fix the runners to their respective leaves with small nails.

With the table right side up again, test the action. Ease the holes and notches as may be necessary for the runners to work smoothly, but do not overdo this.

If correctly fitted, as the leaves are drawn out, they will force the table top up, the latter dropping down again as the leaves extend to their full width.

If satisfactory, the runners should

be carefully prised off the leaves, be glued, and then replaced in the same position. A tiny pin can be driven through near the end of each runner as can be seen by a dot in the sectional view, to prevent them being drawn too far out.

Finally, in the end edges of the table top bore similar holes for the pins to enter as are already bored in the fixed centre. Now give the work a clean up with glasspaper, and rub the edges of the table top and leaves level all round. The table will look quite nice if stained and varnished

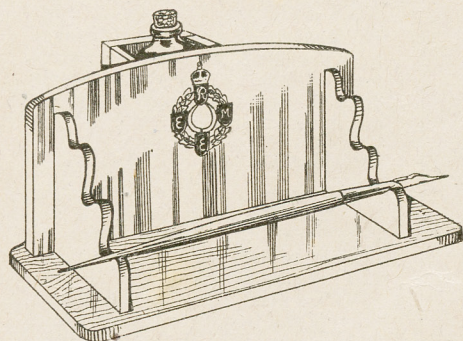
to a pleasing dark oak colour.

For readers who may wish to make a larger size model of such a table, the following particulars will be helpful.

Size of table top 1ft. square. Leaves and fixed centre 4ins. wide and 12ins. long. Legs 1in. square and 9ins. high. Rails 1½ins. wide and 9ins. long. Centre rail 9½ins. long. Wood ¾in. thick for rails and top. Runners ¾in., wide or ¾in. and slope 1in. ¼in 12ins.

A full size section should be drawn, with above details, this will give any further items required.

Add your favourite service badge to this simple INK STAND PEN RACK



WE find that army badges are being more and more used as decorations for articles about the home. Here then is a chance for the fretworker to be up to date in his work in the making of the useful stand shown in our illustration.

It is a plain piece of work, easily cut out and made, and may be finished by french polishing or simply by brushing on a coat of clear varnish.

Wood ¾in. thick may be used throughout, and as the diagrams are all clearly dimensioned, the work of setting out the outlines ready for cutting should not be difficult.

Commence on the Base

The first part to make will be the base, and its shape and size are given in Fig. 1. It will be best to show the dotted lines on the wood as well as the outlines so that the proper place for the fixing screws may be easily arrived at.

The back is a plain piece with a clean-cut tenon on its bottom-edge and a simple curved top edge (see Fig. 2). This curve may either be drawn in freehand or may be put in with a pair of compasses set to a radius of 7ins.

The holder for the raised ink pot is shown complete in Fig. 3, and all four pieces of wood which go to make it up may be set out from the dimensions given. Take care to cut the edges of the parts square, or they may

if necessary, be rubbed down on a sheet of glasspaper.

Glue up the parts and glue the back to the base and the holder centrally behind it. Run in a couple of screws up through the base into the back for additional strength.

Our rack will now look like Fig. 4, in which diagram a portion of the back is cut away to show the ink holder at the rear. The dotted lines show the positions of the pen racks, and these can be outlined on the wood ready for cutting by using the squared diagram Fig. 5.

Here we have a number of ¾in. squares which are to be drawn on the wood with the curved outline after-

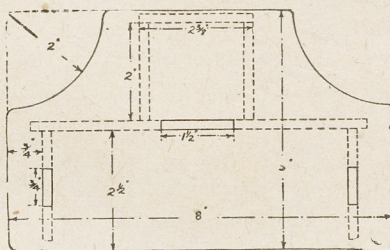


Fig. 1—Details of the base

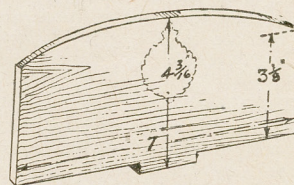


Fig. 2—Shape of the back

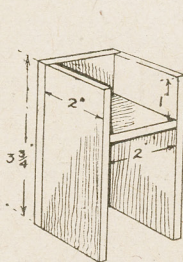


Fig. 3—Ink Holder

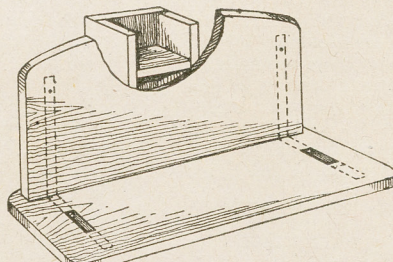


Fig. 4—Showing construction

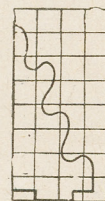


Fig. 5—Pen racks

wards drawn through them. This is a simple way of making an accurate outline where any enlargement is required.

Notice the tenon at the foot of the rack, and check the length of this with the mortise in the base. When the rack has been cut out with the fretsaw, clean it up with fine glasspaper and then use it as a template for drawing

round to produce the second rack.

Glue the racks in place and put a screw through the back into each near the top, as indicated in Fig. 4.

Adding the Badge

The badge for putting on the back, whether it be Navy, Army or Air Force should be in colour, and may be enlarged as desired or kept its actual size. If a paper transfer of the required badge is forthcoming, then a good deal of work in the drawing out and colouring can be saved.

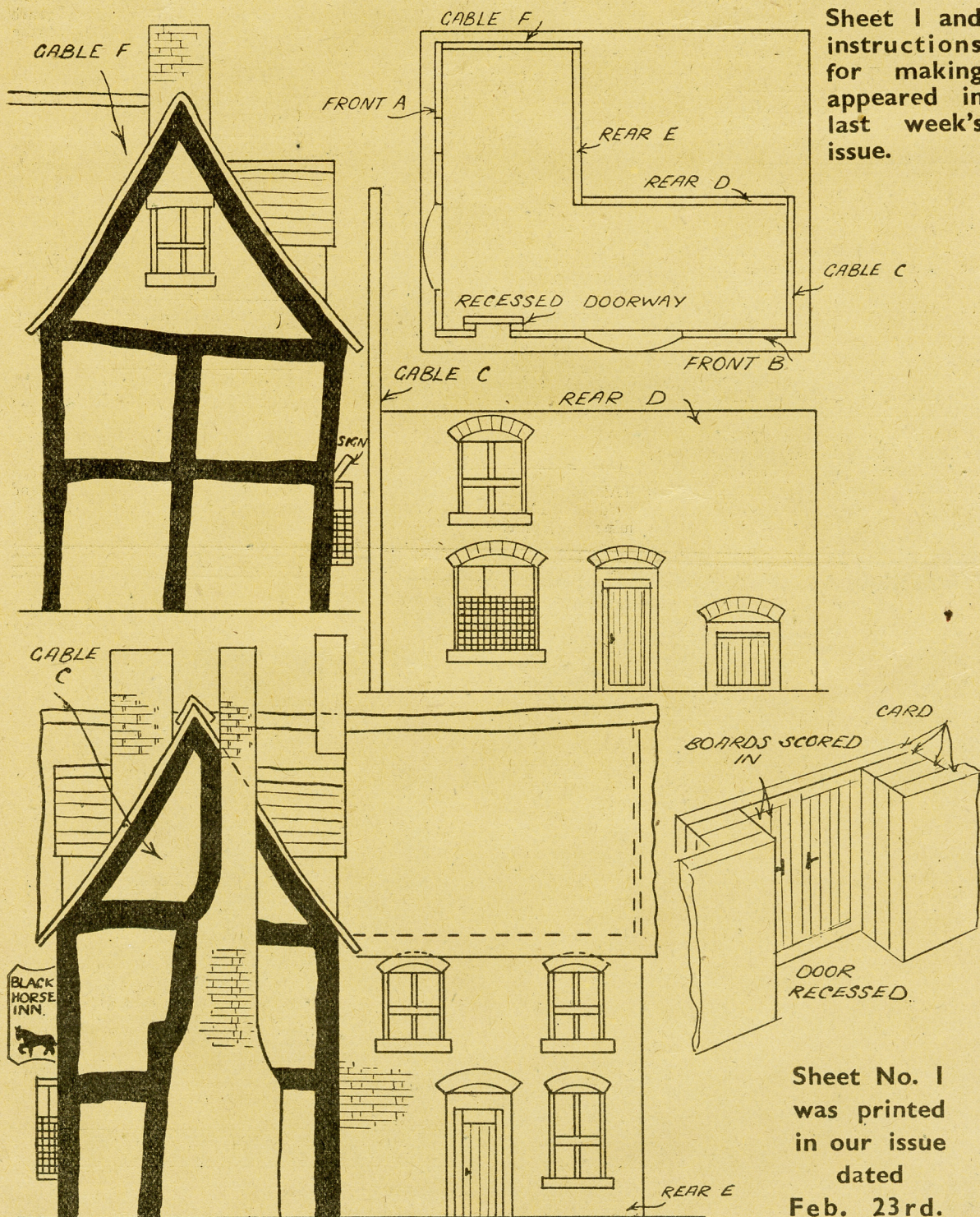
The actual finish of the rack will largely depend upon the wood from which it is made. If of oak, and we can think of no better choice, then a coat of clear varnish would be sufficient.

Mahogany would require a darken-

ing stain with a finish of french polish, or here again a brushing of varnish would take the place of the polish. The cut edges of the wood will require several coats of the varnish as this soaks in.

If, however, some wood filler is available then some of this could be put round the cut edges and afterwards coated with the varnish.

BLACK HORSE INN—Pattern Sheet No. 2



Sheet I and instructions for making appeared in last week's issue.

Sheet No. I was printed in our issue dated Feb. 23rd.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS, etc.

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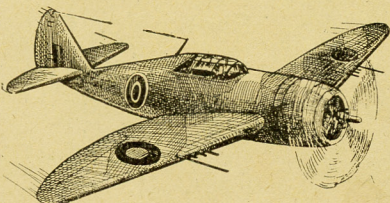
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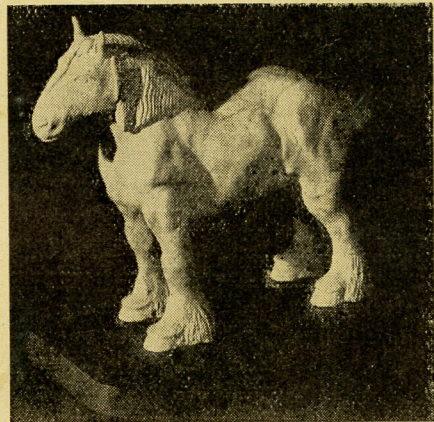
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Large design sheet (No. 2524) free with this issue for a non-flying model. Necessary wood obtainable from Hobbies Branches for 1/8 or sent post free for 2/3 from Hobbies Ltd., Derham, Norfolk.

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